# CHRISTIAN BASES OF WORLD ORDER

A Conference in Connection with the

Merrick Lectures at Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio

March 8-12, 1943

#### Auspices

For Mrs Laters.

Upon the invitation of President Herbert J. Burgstahler of Chio Wesleyan University, the Division of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Board of Missions and Church Extension decided to organize a study conference on Christian Bases of World Order in connection with the 1943 Merrick Lectures at the University. The Division was of the conviction that World Order has a moral and spiritual base and is so closely related to the World Mission of the Christian Church as to justify the fostering of the Conference by the Division.

#### Plan of the Conference

It is proposed to present at Delaware, during the week of March 8, 1943, twelve lectures on the themes which follow. For this week, there will be invited to Delaware up to 250 selected leaders from Methodism and the larger interdenominational fellowship. Students and faculty of the University and the people of the community will be invited to the lectures. The lectures will be published in book form. The 250 delegates will constitute the "conference" and will be responsible for the discussions and the findings.

#### The Seminars

It is the plan to organize twelve Seminars early in the autumn of 1942 in as many centers throughout the country. These study groups will consist of 15-20 persons each, who, under a chairman and in consultation with the lectures, respectively, will study the themes and make recommendations to the total group at Delaware.

The Foreign Department of the Woman's Division and the Committee on .

Ministerial Training are cooperating in the Conference and in the Seminars.

#### Purpose

Through this plan, it is proposed to provide material to guide the Board in its thinking regarding post-war reconstruction overseas and for educational use throughout the Church. It is the hope that fundamental Christian principles and projects will thus be lifted up as factors which must be taken into account if world order is to be achieved.

# General Theme - Christian Bases of World Order

#### The Lecture Themes

- Introductory 1. The Day of the Common Man
- Fundamental Principles
- 2. God and the World We Live In
- 3. The Christian View of Nature
- 4. What Is Man?
- 5. The Meaning of Community
- 6. The Spiritual Basis of Democracy

# Fundamental Projects

- 7. Politics and Human Welfare
- 8. The Land and Human Welfare
- 9. Christianity and the Workers of the World
- 10. The Health of the World Community
- 11. Christianity and the Race Problem
- Concluding 12. Human Character and World Order

The names of the twelve lecturers will be announced later.

#### The Delegation to the Conference

Invitations will be issued by the Chairman, upon authorization of the committee in charge, to representatives of various groups interested in the theme. The group will include the Methodist Bishops and Board members; representatives of the twelve Study Seminars, and of other Boards and agencies, Methodist and inter-

denominational; students and youth; educational institutions; and various social agencies concerned. The Conference will be self-entertaining. The University and the people of Delaware will make the terms reasonable. The plan will be announced later.

### The Discussions

The findings of each of the twelve Seminars will be presented to the whole group at Delaware following the public delivery of the lecture concerned. Bishop Francis J. McConnell will preside at the Conference. The findings, as well as the lectures will be published.

# The Conference Committee

Bishop F. J. McConnell
Bishop W. W. Peele
Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam
Dr. G. M. Davenport
Dr. L. O. Hartman
Dr. J. B. Harmon
Dr. John W. Hawley
Pres. H. J. Burgstahler
Dr. Ralph W. Stoody

Mrs. J. D. Bragg
Mrs. A. E. Beebe
Mrs. F. J. McConnell
Mrs. J. W. Perry
Mrs. H. E. Woolever
Mrs. J. W. Mills
Dr. W. K. Anderson
Dr. W. G. Cram

# Correspondence

Address all correspondence regarding the Conference and the Seminars to

Dr. Ralph E. Diffendorfer 150 Fifth Avenue New York City

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